

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3047

S E C R E T BONN 18703

NODIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN FROM AMBASSADOR STOESSEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW, US

SUBJECT: MY CALL ON CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT

REF: BONN 18668

1. IN ADDITION TO WHAT HE TERMED "OFFICIAL" COMMENTS (REPORTED REFTEL), CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT DURING OUR MEETING ALSO MADE A NUMBER OF PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS WHICH HE ASKED ME TO PASS ON. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT ASKED ME TO CONVEY HIS WARMEST GREETINGS TO PRESIDENT FORD AND TO SECRETARY KISSINGER. HE SAID THAT HE KNEW, AS FEW MEN DID, THE MAJOR CONTRIBUTIONS THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD MADE TO WORLD STABILITY AND SECURITY UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THIS ADMINISTRATION.

2. THE CHANCELLOR SPOKE WITH PARTICULAR WARMTH ABOUT THE GREAT CONTRIBUTION THAT HE FELT THE PRESIDENT HAD MADE. HE SAID PRESIDENT FORD HAD BEEN ABLE TO RESTORE CONFIDENCE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES AFTER THE DIFFICULT VIET NAM AND WATERGATE PERIODS, AND THAT HISTORIANS WOULD RECORD THIS AND PRAISE IT HIGHLY.

3. THE CHANCELLOR ALSO SAID HE PARTICULARLY APPRECIATED THE CLOSE CONSULTATIONS WITH EUROPEAN LEADERS THAT HAD BECOME THE PRACTICE OF THIS ADMINISTRATION. HE

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SAID HE KNEW OF NO AMERICAN PRESIDENT WHO VISITED

EUROPE MORE FREQUENTLY OR MET MORE OFTEN WITH EUROPEAN LEADERS, FORMALLY AND INFORMALLY, THAN PRESIDENT FORD. HE SAID THIS HAD PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE COOPERATION OF THE FREE WORLD DURING THE TURMOIL OF RECENT YEARS.

3. THE CHANCELLOR ALSO RECALLED AN EARLIER MEETING WITH ME AND SAID THAT HE LOOKED FORWARD TO A GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIP.
STOESSEL

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